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TRANSFER OF LAND TO THE STATE OF OREGON

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Mr. ELLENDER, from the Committee on Agriculture and Forestry, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany S. 2603]

The Committee on Agriculture and Forestry, to whom was referred the bill (S. 2603) to authorize the transfer of certain lands to the State of Oregon, having considered same, report thereon with a recommendation that it do pass without amendment.

A copy of the report from the Department of Agriculture, dated March 17, 1952, explaining the proposed transfer, is attached hereto as a part of this report.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,
Washington 25, D. C., March 17, 1952.

Hon. ALLEN J. ELLENDER,
Chairman, Committee on Agriculture and Forestry,
United States Senate.

DEAR SENATOR ELLENDER: This is in reply to your request of February 7 for report on S. 2603, a bill to authorize the transfer of certain lands to the State of Oregon.

S. 2603 authorizes and directs the Secretary of Agriculture to convey approximately 2 acres to the State by quitclaim deed. This small area is part of a tract of 48.73 acres located within the boundaries of the Mount Hood National Forest, and donated in 1938 to the United States for national-forest purposes by the Oregon Fish Commission. The commission retained an adjacent area needed for operation of its Oxbow Springs Fish Hatchery.

Recent relocation of the Columbia Gorge Highway has made it desirable for the State to erect some permanent improvements on that part of the donated land located between the State-owned property and the relocated highway. During the past year this small area of approximately 2 acres was used by the State under a special-use permit from the Forest Service.

In view of the fact that (*a*) the land was donated to the United States by the State of Oregon, (*b*) the State plans to erect several permanent improvements and (*c*) the land is to be used in connection with a publicly owned and operated fish hatchery which will be beneficial to the national forest, it is felt the conveyance is in the public interest.

This Department offers no objection to the enactment of S. 2603.

The Bureau of the Budget advises that, from the standpoint of the program of the President, there is no objection to the submission of this report.

Sincerely,

K. T. HUTCHINSON,
Acting Secretary.